

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 222

BY REPRESENTATIVES JAMES, BADON, BARROW, WESLEY BISHOP, BURRELL, COX, DIXON, FRANKLIN, GAINES, HONORE, HUNTER, KATRINA JACKSON, JEFFERSON, TERRY LANDRY, NORTON, PIERRE, PRICE, SMITH, THIERRY, ALFRED WILLIAMS, AND WOODRUFF AND SENATORS BROOME, DORSEY-COLOMB, GALLOT, GUILLORY, MORRELL, MURRAY, PETERSON, AND TARVER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Lawrence Jackson upon the occasion of his retirement as the Southern University band director and thank him for his many years of service representing the state of Louisiana to the world through the "Human Jukebox" and for his service to the youth of this state through the sharing of his love of music.

WHEREAS, after ten years as the head band director of the world-renowned "Human Jukebox" at Southern University, Lawrence Jackson has announced his retirement effective July 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, nicknamed "Crowley" after his hometown in Louisiana, Lawrence Jackson played tuba in the Southern band from 1971 through 1975, where he served as section leader and won several band awards including most outstanding bandsman and the top grade point average; Jackson also worked part-time for the band for five years, and has worked full-time for the band for eighteen years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson is a graduate of Southern University receiving his Bachelor of Science Degree in Instrumental Music Education and a Master's in School Administration; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Southern University in 1975 Mr. Jackson continued his studies at Vander Cook College of Music in Chicago, Illinois, after which time he married and managed several convenience stores before landing a job in 1976 as director of bands at Clinton High School, in Clinton, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the appointment as director of bands at Clinton High School included responsibility for the band programs at Clinton Elementary and Middle Schools; and

WHEREAS, while at Clinton High School, Mr. Jackson led his band to receive awards of excellence and superior ratings at District IV Concert Band and Solo/Small Ensemble Festivals; superior ratings and sweepstakes winner at Southern University Concert Band Festival; and superior ratings at the Festival of Champions National Concert Band Festival in Panama City, Florida; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, after serving as director of bands at Clinton High School for twenty years, Jackson accepted a position of assistant band director at Southern University and was later promoted to associate director of bands; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his responsibilities as band director, he has served as adjudicator for marching and concert band festivals throughout Louisiana, Texas, and Michigan, and has appeared as guest conductor and clinician in Louisiana, Texas, Alabama, and Georgia; and

WHEREAS, under the baton of Lawrence Jackson, in 2013, the National Collegiate Athletic Association named its top college marching bands and the "Human Jukebox" finished second behind the Ohio State marching band; a ranking that Mr. Jackson was most proud of because, as he said, "Ohio State has a million dollar budget and we have a bubble gum budget compared to them."; and

WHEREAS, while serving as director of bands at Southern University, he also served as one of three staff arrangers in the band department, conductor of the brass choir, woodwind ensemble, basketball pep band, and saxophone ensemble; and

WHEREAS, Jackson was also an adjunct professor of music in the Department of Visual and Performing Arts at Southern University; and

WHEREAS, he is a member of Greater King David Baptist Church where he serves as Director and Conductor of the King David Orchestra; and

WHEREAS, his honorary and professional affiliations include Kappa Kappa Psi Band Fraternity, Phi Mu Alpha Music Fraternity, and the College Band Director's National Association, Music Educators National Conference, Louisiana Music Educators Association.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Lawrence Jackson upon the occasion of his retirement as the Southern University Band Director and thanks him for his many years of service representing the state of Louisiana to the world through the "Human Jukebox" and for his service to the youth of this state through the sharing of his love of music.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mr. Lawrence Jackson.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE